

From: [Karen BISHOP](#)
To: [Eric Blischke/R10/USEPA/US@EPA](#)
Cc: [David G FARRER](#)
Subject: Portland Harbor fish advisory signs
Date: 11/18/2010 11:15 AM

Hi Eric,

I was told by Mike Poulsen to contact you about advisory signs for the Portland Harbor. I work with Dave Farrer in the Environmental Health Assessment Program (EHAP), and it has recently come to our attention that people are fishing in places where there are high concentrations of contaminants in sediment. We know specifically about Willamette Cove and the docks off the Arkema site.

EHAP (then called SHINE) paid for the limited number of original Harbor advisory signs back in 2002, with limited, one-time funds as an interim measure to protect public health. Since then, no new signs have been installed, and there has been no maintenance on existing signs. We would like to propose that the LWG provide dedicated funding for the development, installation and maintenance of new signs. We propose that this funding be classified as something like an Early Action Interim Remedy so that the funds can be used immediately (i.e., before the ROD is signed). We would like to include that as a recommendation in the final version of our Recreational User Public Health Assessment.

The Willamette Cove area needs at least three, and Metro would prefer 5, signs. Some of them would be in water, some on land, and some on old docks. We have yet to determine the number for the Arkema site, but those would be in-water facing outward toward the river. We have also heard from DEQ that there really ought to be (very large) signs on the bridges, so they can be seen from boats. We have also discussed developing buoys with the advisory language on all sides, to be placed out in the river in known prime fishing areas. I would also like to conduct a harbor-wide survey of known fishing locations to determine need.

Let me know what you think and thanks for your time,
Karen

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